

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-14 DHA-05 ACDA-10 SSO-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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O 261558Z AUG 77 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8584
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

UNCLAS PRETORIA 4392

LUSAKA FOR YOUNG AND MOOSE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, RH, US, UK
SUBJECT: SMITH CITES INADEQUATE SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS
AS REASONS FOR ELECTION.

REF: LAGOS 9636

1. RHODESIAN HERALD OF AUGUST 20, JUST RECEIVED BY
EMBASSY TODAY, COVERS CAMPAIGN SPEECH BY SMITH OF PREVIOUS
EVENING IN GWANDA. SMITH REPORTEDLY TOLD CROWD THAT
PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY BRITISH AND AMERICANS HAD BEEN
UNACCEPTTABLE. THE TWO GOVERNMENTS HE SAID HAD GONE
BACK ON UNDERTAKINGS GIVEN HIM PREVIOUSLY BY DR. OWEN.
IT WAS THIS FACT THAT LED HIM TO CALL FOR ELECTIONS
AUGUST 31. SMITH STATED "I THOUGHT I'D BETTER GIVE THEM
A MESSAGE, NOT ONLY FROM ME AS LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT,
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BUT ALSO FROM THE ELECTORATE."

2. THE POINTS THAT SMITH MENTIONED AS HAVING BEEN
PREVIOUSLY AGREED ON AND NOW BEING RENEGED WERE QUALIFIED
FRANCHISE, SAFEGUARD CLAUSES IN CONSTITUTION FOR
MINORITY, IMPARTIALITY OF JUDICIARY AND SECURITY FORCES,
AND DEMOBILIZATION OF GUERRILLA FORCES. ACCORDING TO THE

PAPER, SMITH SAID THAT HE IS NOW BEING TOLD "THE QUALIFIED FRANCHISE WAS AN ANACHRONISM...IT HAD TO BE A ONE MAN ONE VOTE AND NOTHING ELSE. THEY SAID ENTRENCHED CLAUSES IN THE CONSTITUTION AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATION WERE NOT FOUND ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. WE WERE TOLD WE COULD NOT HAVE THE PRESERVATION OF THE IMPARTIALITY OF THE JUDICIARY AND THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER, AND THAT THERE WAS A MOVE IN THE WORLD TOWARDS LIBERALIZATION, FREEDOM. THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE WAS THE NEW DEMOCRACY. FINALLY, WE WERE TOLD THE TERRORISTS WOULD HAVE TO BE BROUGHT BACK AND BE INFILTRATED INTO THE SECURITY FORCES. THIS IS THE REASON WHY WE ARE HAVING A GENERAL ELECTION."

3. MEANWHILE, A PERUSAL OF CAMPAIGN ADVERTISEMENTS IN RHODESIAN PAPERS SHOW THAT THE NATIONAL UNITY FRONT, THE COMBINED PARTY OF THE OLD LIBERAL OPPOSITIONS, LED BY ALAN SAVORY AND SAUCE REYNOLDS, BASES ITS PLATFORM SPECIFICALLY ON ACCEPTANCE OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.BOWDLER

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